

Stubblebine 109755con-1

IN THE CLAIMS:

1 - 55. (Canceled)

56. (Currently Amended) A system that includes a security policy server, an identification authority server, a revocation authority server, verification authority server, and a user computer, comprising:

a module within the identification authority server that, pursuant to a long-term policy received from said security policy server and a request from said user computer, prepares and sends to said user computer, via a public network to which said user computer, identification authority server, revocation authority server, and said verification authority server are connected, an identification certificate that includes a freshness constraint represented by a time duration referenced to time of said request by said user computer;

a module within said revocation authority server configured to store ~~for storing~~ in a memory a validity statement in response to a received short-term policy, and to update ~~for updating~~ said validity statement at specified intervals, said validity statement including a verification status at some temporal reference;

means configured to provide ~~for providing~~, in response to a request initiated by said user computer, said identification certificate and said validity statement retrieved from said memory, to said verification authority server, via said public network; and

a module within said verification authority server configured to verify ~~for verifying~~ that said request is within said time duration and said validity statement permits serving said request by said user computer.